

July 5, 2001

Dear Friends:

As Governor of the State of Mississippi, I am honored to send greetings to this incredible class of high school students who are taking steps to master a second language. During the next four weeks, I am sure that you will learn many interesting things about the culture and traditions of Mississippi and the United States. One day, you may have the opportunity to visit our state, and take advantage of the many wonderful experiences we offer. In the "Hospitality State," you will always find cultural and entertainment events, as well as fine Mississippi cuisine.

I have enclosed a booklet that I hope will be useful in your studies. You may find more information about our state by visiting Mississippi's official website at [www.state.ms.us](http://www.state.ms.us). Our state is rich in its heritage and will provide you with many interesting and useful facts.

Please allow me to thank you for your devotion to excellence in academics. I encourage you to continue to strive towards excellence as you prepare to become the leaders of tomorrow.

Very truly yours,

RONNIE MUSGROVE

RM/kfg